

REMARKS

Discussion of Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to include a reference to sensitizers of formula IIIa and IVa. Claims 5 and 7 have been amended to make them depend upon claim 1 rather than canceled claims 4 and 6. Claims 19-20 have been amended to make them depend upon claims 16 and 17 respectively. New claim 21 has been added and is directed to an embodiment of the invention. No new matter has been added

The Office Action

The Office Action sets forth the following grounds for rejection:

- (1) Claims 1 to 20 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e), as allegedly anticipated by Gries et al. (US 2003/0186165);
- (2) Claims 1 to 20 are rejected under 35 USC §102(a), as allegedly anticipated by EP 1 349 006 A1;
- (3) Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b), as allegedly anticipated by EP 0 741 333 A1;
- (4) Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 14-16 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b), as allegedly anticipated by WO 97/35232; and
- (5) Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 14-16 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b), as allegedly anticipated by Zertani et al. (US 5,066,564).

Discussion of Rejections

Applicants have amended claim 1, as discussed, to include a reference to sensitizers of formulas IIIa and IVa. Applicants submit that the presently claimed invention is novel over the cited references. None of the cited references discloses the subject matter presently claimed, particularly wherein at least two of the alkoxy groups are branched and have from

three to fifteen carbon atoms. In view of the foregoing, the rejections should be withdrawn. New claim 21 is also novel over the cited references.

Conclusion

As Applicant believes the application is in proper condition for allowance, the examiner is respectfully requested to pass the application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



Xavier Pillai, Reg. No. 39,799
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900
180 North Stetson Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6731
(312) 616-5600 (telephone)
(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

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